

# ANTWERP CUT OFF; FRONTIER BATTLE ON

## DEALERS FACE COURT TRIAL FOR BOOSTING FOOD PRICES

Washington Merchants Who Have Added to Cost of Living Will Be Among Those Prosecuted.

## Indictments Are Being Prepared for Presentation to Grand Jury and Criminal Proceedings Will Follow Action.

Prosecution in the District Supreme Court of Washington dealers for increasing the price of foodstuffs, "with the European war as an excuse," will follow a number of indictments now being prepared by the authorities. This was made almost certain today when information was obtained from the Department of Justice that criminal proceedings are shortly to be started by the Government in its nation-wide probe of food prices. As the grand jury here has been longer at work than any other in investigating the sudden increase in prices, it is pointed out that Washington will see the first action against food price boosters.

The District grand jury has adjourned until next Thursday. While District Attorney Clarence R. Wilson refuses to discuss even the code under which indictments might be returned, it is known that grand juries order indictments frequently and then adjourn to give the district attorney's office an opportunity to prepare the bills.

President Wilson, whose letter to the attorney general a week ago, suggested the nation-wide inquiry in what he termed "the rapid and unwarranted increase in the price of food," is said to be convinced that many dealers have taken advantage of the war to boost prices unreasonably. He is anxious for a report from the Department of Justice on the progress of the probe. Federal grand juries are now working in New York, Baltimore, Chicago, and St. Louis, and instructions are expected to be issued within a short time by the Attorney General to Federal district attorneys to institute grand jury proceedings.

## Predicts One Dollar Eggs.

Predicting that unless some means are found for lowering the cost of living, the price of eggs will ultimately reach a dozen, John H. Sherman, chief of the Federal Food Administration, today addressed the second of his tri-weekly meetings of housekeepers for the organization for buying in wholesale lots.

Every seat in the board room of the Federal Food Administration Building was occupied when, at 10 o'clock, Mr. Sherman began his address. Many of those present took notes and at the close of the meeting conferred with Mr. Sherman regarding his suggestions.

"Carry a market basket," was one of his suggestions. "To obtain the best goods at the cheapest prices, he said, it is necessary to do your own marketing and not order from dealers by telephone, carrying market baskets, he declared, "coming into style." Among those who may be seen on the market lines with their baskets, he said, are a member of the cabinet, a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, Senators, and members of Congress.

"Buy in season," was another suggestion on which Mr. Sherman dwelt with emphasis. Farmers, he said, are offering commodities to spoil for the reason that they find no market for them, due to the fact that consumers who have been eating Southern melons, have become tired of the fruit.

Advices Small Leagues.

Superintendent Sherman again advised that the leagues be confined to small groups of not over ten or twelve families, and preferably from three to six, and that they cover an area of not over two blocks.

"Anything that looks like a credit system," he advised, "organize."

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

## IN CONGRESS TODAY.

Met at 11.

Senator Gallinger introduced resolution for the maintenance of the status quo in China and the Pacific.

War risk insurance bill taken up.

HOUSE.

Met at noon.

Considered bills on private claims calendar.

Naval Committee continued consideration of bills for Government operation of naval auxiliaries as mail and freight ships.

## INSURANCE BILL IS PASSED IN SENATE

No Roll Call Required on Measure for Government to Assume War Risks.

## INTENDED AS CURB UPON PRIVATE UNDERWRITERS

Authority More for Keeping Down Rates Than for Actual Transactions.

The war insurance risk bill, taken under consideration in the Senate today at the instance of Senator Clarke of Arkansas, was passed without a roll call. The bill provides for the establishment of a bureau of war risk insurance.

The bill was discussed at considerable length, and although limited opposition developed, it was apparent from the beginning the measure would pass.

## Curb On Private Companies.

A significant phase of the discussion was the intimations that the Government intends to use this bill, less for the purpose of actually insuring vessels and their cargoes, than for the purpose of compelling private corporations in the insurance business to hold down their rates.

Senator Clarke explained the bill, and said it was an emergency measure, not designed to authorize the Government to go into the insurance business permanently. He emphasized that conditions brought about by war made it necessary that the insurance underwritten be confined strictly to war risks and not to ordinary risks of sea.

Senator Clark of Wyoming objected to the creation of another bureau in the Government on the ground that every time a bureau was created it proceeded to find some way to expand itself and swell public expense.

Senator McCumber did not oppose the bill, but wanted it amended so as to provide the Government should not insure unless private concerns made undue rates.

## Gives Government Power.

"I can see no good reason for the raising of rates of insurance on neutral goods," said he. "I think the best thing about this bill is that it enables the Government to step in and say, when private companies seek to exact exorbitant rates, 'I'll see that you don't do it.' I am inclined to think that as soon as the Government puts itself in a position to go into the insurance business, it will settle down about to what they have been in the past."

Senator Clarke of Arkansas declared the measure was an "absolute necessity."

Senator John Sharp Williams endorsed the bill for its moral effect on private concerns.

Senator Clark suggested, and the Senate adopted, an amendment requiring the President to terminate the bureau when the necessity for it expired.

Senator Lane offered an amendment to insure the lives of the officers and crews of the ships, but it was voted down on a roll call.

## Wilson Stands Firm for Government Ship Lines

The Administration bill authorizing the expenditure of \$5,000,000 for ships to handle the commerce of the United States during the war and afterward, which the House passed last week, was today the subject of a discussion in the Senate.

President Wilson, following talks with Senator Clark, this morning, seemed convinced that the proposed Government ship line could carry goods to the nations without embarrassing American industry.

## PRESIDENT DEFINES TEMPERATE SPEECH

President Wilson was today facing a stupendous task as arbiter of what acts and speeches by American citizens are neutral and what are not in the European war situation.

In response to the President's recent appeal to his fellow-countrymen to refrain from expressions of passion or prejudice in the war, he is being flooded with requests for personal interpretation of his proclamation. Societies, organizations, and individuals are requesting rulings from him direct regarding what he does and does not regard as "temperate."

Before the President today was an inquiry, transmitted by Secretary of War Bryan, from the American Peace Society and affiliated peace organizations. The officers inquired whether "peace" meetings were being destroyed. The President ruled that such meetings were not regarded as "unneutral." If held within public places, including the remarks of the speakers.

The President also ruled that "peace" demonstrations were being received by the White House praising the President for his plea for temperate conduct of Americans.

President has no objection to use of flags in the women's peace parade in New York August 26. Contrary to published reports, the President's only request in regard to the parade was that there be no speeches. The women have notified the White House that the only flag they intend to display is a peace emblem, and under these conditions it was said there would be no racial demonstrations.

## JAPAN NOW READY TO STRIKE GERMANY IS TOKYO REPORT

Complete Backdown by Kaiser Only Move That Can Avert Hostilities.

## BERLIN IS EXPECTED TO TURN DOWN ULTIMATUM

Rumor Says Germany Is Making Preparation to Repel Attack in Kiaochow.

TOKYO, Aug. 21.—Only a complete backdown by the Kaiser can prevent hostilities at Kiaochow. The ultimatum expires on Sunday. That Germany will consent to turn her territory over to Japan, or even to China, and to dismantle her warships in the Orient is considered very unlikely. So certain are Japanese officials that the decision at Berlin will be for war that a fleet is already waiting near the Shantung peninsula for wireless orders. Troops are also on transports, but the government prohibits any information as to their location or their number.

## Expect Attack by Germans.

Japanese officials believe the German warships in the East will attempt to damage the Japanese fleet at long range while remaining under the protection of the German land forces as much as possible. There is no disposition on the part of the Japanese officials to minimize the task ahead. The Kiaochow forts are modern and are equipped with magnificent artillery, the latest product of the big Krupp factories. Foreseeing the war, and the possible Japanese complications, the Germans have laid in a good supply of ammunition and have foodstuffs enough to withstand a protracted siege.

Every effort is being made to impress upon the Japanese people the admiration of the German government for the United States. The fact that Japan has bitterly opposed the United States in the past has been a source of regret to the Japanese officials. The fact that Japan has any idea of territorial aggression in Samoa are prominently displayed.

The suggestion, cabled from the United States that Japan wanted German Samoa because of its strategic location, has been attacked directly by the premier. He insisted in an authorized interview today that the only reason for Japan interference in the struggle now being waged in Europe was to insure that the commerce of the Orient would not be interfered with. The suggestion that Japan had any intention of retaining Germany's leased territory, but planned to restore it to China.

## Will Keep Hands Off In Far East Dispute

The United States will keep hands off in the far Eastern situation, according to the Administration sources today.

While receipt of a note from China, asking the United States to act as trustee of Kiaochow, was officially disclaimed by the Administration today, it was apparent that the Administration knew of the situation in this matter and that it intends to remain aloof, unless there is a general request for such action, and one which could not possibly be misinterpreted by any of the warring nations.

China's inquiry, which is said to have been inspired by Germany, or at least to have Germany's approval, was submitted to the State Department as a means of preventing the threatened extension of the war to Far Eastern waters.

Germany last Sunday was served with an ultimatum by Japan that it must give up its territory at Kiaochow. The tone of diplomatic dispatches tended to indicate that Japan's intention was to restore this territory to China.

## Was to Avoid Conflict.

The Chinese suggestion that the United States act as an intermediary in arranging the transfer was suggested as a means of preventing the threatened conflict between Japan and Germany in the East.

President Wilson has taken a position of strict neutrality, however, that officials declare such a request, coming from China and Germany alone would be given any consideration.

The State Department has been furnished with a complete review of Japanese protests against German activity in the Far East, which prompted the ultimatum for the surrender of Kiaochow.

## Automobile In Flames.

The automobile of J. E. Davies, commissioner of corporations, caught fire last night, while in front of the Raleigh Hotel. The fire was extinguished by the fire department. The cause of the fire was not determined.

## LOUVAIN TAKEN BY GERMAN ADVANCE



A view of the Town Hall at Louvain, Belgium. Six hundred years ago this city with its population of 150,000 was the most important industrial center in this part of Europe. Enormous quantities of woolen and linen cloth were woven here and exported to all parts of Europe. In 1378 there was a riot in this square and thirteen magistrates of noble family were killed. The building shown here was, when erected, practically a huge illustrated Bible and town history spread open to the eyes of all the people before there were any printed books.

## SERBS HARRY REAR OF RETREATING FOE

Six Cannon Are Captured in Assault on Austrians. Report From Nish.

NISH, Aug. 21.—The Serbian army is pursuing the Austrian army, which was defeated Sunday, and is inflicting severe losses on the invaders, according to semi-official advices here. The Serbians captured six guns in an assault on the retreating left wing of the Austrian army.

One of the bloodiest conflicts in modern history has been waged between the Serbian and Austrian armies, according to statements given out by the Serbian war office. The account of the battle, in part, says: "The battle lasted three days between the two forces at Shabatz and resulted in the complete rout of the Austrians, which are supposed to have numbered 100,000. Two squadrons of cavalry and three regiments of infantry were completely annihilated."

"When the Austrians were compelled to retreat," the Serbian war office declared, "they were pursued, capturing six quick firing guns, a large number of rifles, much ammunition, and other war material, as well as horses and an entire hospital outfit. More than 2,000 prisoners were taken to Valievo."

## Smith, III, Is Kept From Golf Tourney

MIDDLEBURY, Ill., Aug. 21.—Max Donald Smith, of Pittsburgh, the new metropolitan and Pennsylvania golf champion, who is considered one of the three or four most likely candidates for the national open championship, was too ill today to start the final day's play. Donald Edwards, Chicago amateur, and J. H. Taylor, Canton, Ohio, also were out of the contest because of illness. Young Jack Dowling, Scarsdale, N. Y., after playing the morning round, was forced to leave for home.

Quinnet, with seventy-five strokes, proved one stroke better today than yesterday, finishing with a score of thirty-seven in all. At that he had two strokes by being hindered. His handicap was so goodly he had little need to put. His three rounds in order 9-7-7-25-22—leaving him as keen a championship possibility as ever.

## PROTEST ON GERMANY TO NEUTRAL POWERS LANDED AT CETTINJE

France Declares That Kaiser's Troops Are Violating Rules of Civilized Warfare.

PARIS, Aug. 21.—The French protest to the neutral powers against alleged German barbarities and violations of the rules of civilized warfare is about complete.

It will cite numerous instances where the charge is made that German soldiers killed wounded Belgian and French prisoners, and shot non-combatants, who were unarmed.

It is stated that the war office that the Belgian foreign minister has forwarded to the Hague and Geneva conventions, together with the affidavits proving the charges, and that these will be included in the French charges.

They will be forwarded to all of the powers signatory to the Geneva and Hague conventions, and they will be asked to demand that Germany live up to her obligations.

In addition to the specific allegations of brutality, toward wounded and non-combatants, the French government this afternoon also prepared for submission to the powers signatory to the Hague conventions, a protest. In this it is alleged that German troops without warning, fired on the undefended and undefended town of Pont-a-Mousson, west of Metz, which has 12,000 inhabitants. The French complaint alleges that the German not only shelled the town, but turned the guns on the Red Cross hospital there, demolishing it, killing seven and wounding eight of the inmates.

## Service for the Pope At St. Matthew's Church

A solemn requiem high mass, with Archbishop Giovanni Bonzano, apostolic delegate to the United States, as celebrant, will be offered for the repose of the soul of Pope Pius X. Monday morning at 10 o'clock in St. Matthew's Catholic Church, Rhode Island avenue, near Connecticut avenue, northwest.

Members of the Diplomatic Corps and all Catholic clergy of Washington have been invited to attend the service, which will be the official memorial ceremony for the Pope. The sermon will be given by the Rev. Walter Elliott, C. S. P., rector of the Apostolic Mission House, Brookland. Other officers of the clergy will be selected from Washington.

## AUSTRIAN PRISONERS LANDED AT CETTINJE

French Have Put 297 Vanquished Sailors Ashore in the Last Two Days.

CETTINJE, Montenegro, Aug. 21.—One hundred and seventy-four Austrian sailors and officers, captured during last Sunday's engagement between the French fleet and an Austrian cruiser squadron, were brought here today. They are in addition to 122 brought here yesterday and it is believed that more than one Austrian cruiser was sunk in the battle, which it is now admitted lasted a couple of hours.

It is stated here that the conquest of the Austrian seaports along the Adriatic will be comparatively easy. The pick of the Austrian army, which has heretofore been stationed here, has all been withdrawn because of the Russian invasion of Austrian force now in progress. The defense has been entrusted to the landstrum, or home guards, and the Montenegrin officers at the front send word back that they will prove easy to defeat now that the Montenegrin army has been re-enforced by the Serbians.

## Occupation of Brussels Confirmed in London

LONDON, Aug. 21.—The war bureau in a statement issued at noon, formally confirmed the occupation of Brussels by the German troops. The bureau announcement contained no information regarding what was developing today in Belgium simply announcing that Brussels had been occupied and repeating the Belgian claim that the city had been abandoned because of the Russian invasion of Austrian force now in progress. The defense has been entrusted to the landstrum, or home guards, and the Montenegrin officers at the front send word back that they will prove easy to defeat now that the Montenegrin army has been re-enforced by the Serbians.

## Americans Rush to Join Fighting Men of France

PARIS, Aug. 21.—Several thousand volunteers of various nationalities, including a score of Americans, marched on the invaders today and asked to be enlisted in the French army. It is expected some of them will be accepted as the French government has night announced that it will accept the American Rough Rider or aviator.

## FRENCH AND BRITISH LINES MEETING NEW GERMAN ASSAULT

Outposts Clash South of Brussels as Invaders Pour Forces Against French Frontier—Russians Enter Prussia.

With Brussels occupied by the main German army, with the Belgian defense withdrawn to protect its temporary capital at Antwerp, with the northern German armies swinging south and west, with the outposts even now clashing, France and England concentrated along the first line of defense must meet the assault upon the French frontier.

Simultaneously the Russian advance into east Prussia has been marked with a signal victory at Lyck.

After two days of desperate fighting the Germans have been dislodged and Gumbinnen is threatened by the Cossack invasion.

In Alsace operations have halted until the campaign in Lorraine has accomplished its purpose. The Germans have fallen back on Strassburg and the opposition to the French advance on Metz is desperate.

## Russians Drive German Force From Frontier

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 21.—The war office today announced the Russian forces operating in East Prussia have defeated a German army detachment and taken possession of the city of Lyck, fifty-five miles south of Gumbinnen.

The admission is made that the conquest was not possible until after two days of desperate fighting, in which the Germans maintained their control and killed many of the attacking force. It was not until after re-enforcements had arrived that the Russians were able to take the city by assault.

The German garrison retired in order, but was forced to leave behind a large quantity of supplies and several field guns.

The initial attack was made by Cossacks, who were supported by a machine gun detachment. The Cossacks were driven back with heavy losses, but infantry supports were brought up and the fighting continued.

## German Outposts Clash With French Advance

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS.

PARIS, Aug. 21.—The German forward movement in Belgium continues today. The forces are moving steadily west from Brussels and south and west from their bases on the Meuse river. Despite the great secrecy involved by the censorship it is certain that the battle with the French forces cannot long be delayed, and even now it is stated the outposts of the armies have clashed. And as the movement continues the main forces must quickly be drawn into action.

France, and probably England, whose expeditionary forces cannot be located, must now check the Germans. The Belgians have done their utmost, but they are through.

With their capital in the hands of the enemy and the bulk of the French army in Antwerp to protect that fortified city from capture, the opposition between the German lines and the French frontier now comprises the French main army.

The French defense plans contemplate a complete check to the Germans, according to officers of the general staff. They expressed supreme confidence in their ability today and said that determination that the issue cannot much longer be delayed.

The French operations in Lorraine have been checked to await the completion of the movement in upper Alsace. Until this section is swept clear of the German forces, the French cannot move north and from the French frontier to the Rhine, the attacks upon Metz and Strassburg cannot be made. The Germans are in strong force in Lorraine, and have been entrenching and preparing for a stubborn resistance for several days.

The war bureau announcements today were few and far between. It was very frankly stated that it was deemed impossible to permit any real news to become public in the present crisis because the enemy might benefit by the information.

## Plan Advance Along Both Banks of Meuse

The German plan of campaign appears to be an advance along both banks of the Meuse. Closely guarded by the French, the German forces are indicated today but faintly the disposition of the allies, but admit the concentration of a great army to meet the vigorous onslaught of the invader.

The London war office says: "The Belgian troops have admirably performed their duty in delaying the hostile advance and enabling the allies to complete their concentration."

To the fact that not a single shot was fired in defense of Brussels by the Belgians, and that the civic guard was disarmed before the invaders reached the capital, is due the salvation of the city itself. The German commander is understood to have pledged himself, so long as his orders are obeyed, to protect the city with its many beautiful and historic buildings.

The retirement of the main Belgian army to the defenses of Antwerp leaves these forces out of the future fighting. The official statements from the war office today minimize the importance of the Belgian retirement. Responsibility is accepted to it, and the explanation is made that the Belgians "fulfilled their part, and now the work of the future will be taken up by the allies."

While the French army from Belgium is moving rapidly northward, the upper Alsace of Germany, the troops operating in Lorraine have encountered strong opposition. The advance cavalry reconnaissance developed the presence of a large German force between Chateau Salins and Morhingen, with intrenchments as far as the Seltz river. The Germans are heavily supported with artillery, indicating that it is the intention of their general staff to oppose a French advance on Metz.

In Alsace the Germans are reported, in the first official bulletin issued today, to be retreating toward the Rhine and on Strassburg. The report says: "The French operations in upper Alsace continue to be successful. Numerous German prisoners and twenty-four cannons have been taken. The enemy was engaged in force between Mulhausen and Altkirch, both of which cities are now held by the French. The French troops have taken a number of in-